

# PUBLIC NOTICE

It is a State mandated requirement to **re-inform** our water customers on a **quarterly basis** of the following information. The Town must notify its customers until two rounds (a six month period of time) of subsequent copper samples are within the States allowable levels. *We **emphasize this is not a new incident**.* Should any customers have any concerns to the possibility of excessive copper in their water, residents should run their water for a period of five minutes.

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER Hamilton Water Contains High Levels of Copper

Our water system recently violated a drinking water standard. Even though this is not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we are doing to correct this situation.

### What happened?

The Hamilton Department of Public Works tested for lead and copper on November 10, 2003. The test indicated that the Hamilton water exceeded the action level for copper as required by law.. The copper level was measured at 1.45mg/l, which is greater than 1.3mg/l allowable by 310 CMR 22.16A(4)

### What does this mean?

Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson's Disease should consult their personal doctor.

### What is being done?

The Town will follow a testing and reporting plan approved by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, which includes follow up samples of all lead and copper sites in Town, twice in 2004, and adjustments of our corrosion control treatment as necessary to optimize the effectiveness of our corrosion control program.

This is not an emergency. If it had been, you would have been notified immediately.

For more information, please contact Steve Kenney, Director DPW at 978 468-5581 or Hamilton Town Hall P.O. Box 429, 577 Bay Road Hamilton, MA 01936

*Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.*

This notice is being sent to you by the Hamilton Department of Public Works. PWS ID#3119000 Date distributed: **10/15/04**

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